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(54) Method for recovering acrylic acid

(57) An improved method enabling stable and effective recovery of acrylic acid over a prolonged period comprises contacting an acrylic acid-containing gas obtainable by gas-phase catalytic oxidation of propylene and/or acrolein, with water, collecting the acrylic acid in the form of an aqueous solution, introducing the aqueous solution into an azeotropic separation column and distilling it in the presence of an azeotropic solvent to isolate and recover the acrylic acid, wherein the azeo-

tropic solvent comprises either a mixed solvent composed of solvent A (ethyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinyl acrylate, allyl acetate, isopropenyl acetate, vinyl propionate and methyl crotonate) and solvent B (toluene, heptane, 1-heptene, methylcyclohexane, cycloheptene, cycloheptadiene, cycloheptatriene, 2,4-dimethyl-1,3-pentadiene, methylcyclohexene and methylenecyclohexane) or the solvent A alone. In another embodiment, the azeotropic solvent comprises only solvent A.

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 30 1479

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			C07C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 10 August 1998	Examiner Janus, S
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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